

Overview

The Boards, Departments, and Offices (BDOs) of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) have adopted a general environmental policy statement that affirms our commitment to reduce ecological impacts from our business operations, lead by example, and assist our sister state agencies in their efforts. Implementation of this policy and supporting policies through our environmental management system will align the conduct of our business operations with our programmatic mission to restore, protect and enhance the environment, to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality.

Additional supporting policies are being and will continue to be developed to guide our evolution toward a more sustainable and restorative enterprise. Supporting policies, adopted by the EMS Steering Committee as of March 18, 2004 and adopted by the Cal/EPA Agency Secretary and Directors of the Boards, Departments, and Office on June 22, 2004, are as follows:

1. Environmentally Preferred Procurement and Source Reduction Policy
2. Waste Reduction Policy
3. Energy Policy
4. Electronic Equipment Policy: Energy Efficiency, Materials Efficiency, and Toxics Reduction through Procurement, Use, and End-of-Life Management
5. Transportation Policy

Future policies are anticipated and include:

- Sustainable Building: Operation and Maintenance, Remodeling, Construction, and Demolition
- Integrated Pest Management
- Indoor and Outdoor Air Quality
- Hazardous Materials and Universal Waste
- Water Conservation and Quality
- Green Workshops, Conferences, Lodging
- Sustainable Landscape Design and Maintenance

These policies are implemented in a collaborative and supportive manner through identifying and implementing best practices, adoption of guidance and procedures as needed, and annual management review of progress toward our objectives and targets.

Cal/EPA Environmental Policy Statement

It is the policy of the California Environmental Protection Agency to conduct our work in an environmentally sustainable manner. We are committed to continually monitoring and reducing our environmental impacts.

We will focus our initial efforts on the environmental impacts of our operations at the Cal/EPA headquarters building to reduce our ecological footprint. We will be a responsible neighbor in our community.

In carrying out this policy, we will:

1. Operate in a manner that prevents pollution and minimizes adverse impacts on the environment
2. Work together to create a clean, healthy, and safe, work environment
3. Comply with, and strive to surpass, all applicable environmental, health, and safety laws and regulations
4. Seek the commitment of all employees to environmental stewardship through communication, training, and support for employee initiative
5. Serve as a role model and provide leadership for other organizations
6. Promote pollution prevention and environmentally preferred products and sustainable business practices with our building management, contractors, and suppliers
7. Communicate to employees of Cal/EPA and other stakeholders our performance, successes, and obstacles to further progress
8. Implement and continually improve the Environmental Management System for Agency operations
9. Make this policy readily available to our external partners, community members, and the general public